



The Scottish Parliament Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Vol. 3, No. 76 Session 4

Meeting of the Parliament

Wednesday 5 February 2014

Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 2.00 pm.

1. Portfolio Questions: Questions on Infrastructure, Investment and Cities and on Culture and External Affairs were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. Budget (Scotland) (No.3) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth (John Swinney) moved S4M-08914—That the Parliament agrees that the Budget (Scotland) (No.3) Bill be passed.

Iain Gray moved amendment S4M-08914.1 to motion S4M-08914—

Insert at end—

“but, in so doing, considers that funds be allocated in the total amount needed to fully mitigate the so-called bedroom tax in Scotland through discretionary housing payments and, if necessary, other schemes administered by local authorities and housing associations to ensure that no tenant need face eviction as a result of the bedroom tax.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 108, Against 15, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 108, Against 15, Abstentions 0).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—That the Parliament agrees that the Budget (Scotland) (No.3) Bill be passed but, in so doing, considers that funds be allocated in

the total amount needed to fully mitigate the so-called bedroom tax in Scotland through discretionary housing payments and, if necessary, other schemes administered by local authorities and housing associations to ensure that no tenant need face eviction as a result of the bedroom tax.

3. Business Motion: Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-08946—That the Parliament agrees the following programme of business—

Tuesday 18 February 2014

2.00 pm Time for Reflection

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

followed by Topical Questions (if selected)

followed by Final Stage Debate: The City of Edinburgh Council (Leith Links and Surplus Fire Fund) Bill

followed by European and External Relations Committee Debate: Engagement and Scrutiny of the Committees of the Scottish Parliament on EU policies

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 19 February 2014

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.00 pm Portfolio Questions
Education and Lifelong Learning

followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

7.00 pm Decision Time

followed by Members' Business

Thursday 20 February 2014

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions

11.40 am General Questions

12.00 pm First Minister's Questions

12.30 pm Members' Business

2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.30 pm Stage 1 Debate: Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time

Tuesday 25 February 2014

2.00 pm Time for Reflection
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
followed by Topical Questions (if selected)
followed by Stage 3 Proceedings: Public Bodies (Joint Working) (Scotland) Bill
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business

Wednesday 26 February 2014

2.00 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions
2.00 pm Portfolio Questions
Finance, Employment and Sustainable Growth
followed by Scottish Government Business
followed by Business Motions
followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions
5.00 pm Decision Time
followed by Members' Business

Thursday 27 February 2014

11.40 am Parliamentary Bureau Motions
11.40 am General Questions
12.00 pm First Minister's Questions
12.30 pm Members' Business
2.30 pm Parliamentary Bureau Motions

2.30 pm Scottish Government Business

followed by Business Motions

followed by Parliamentary Bureau Motions

5.00 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to.

4. Business Motion: Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-08947—That the Parliament agrees that consideration of the Revenue Scotland and Tax Powers Bill at stage 1 be completed by 23 May 2014.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on item 2 as noted above.

6. International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation: The Parliament debated S4M-08729 in the name of Jenny Marra—That the Parliament notes that 6 February is International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation; considers that female genital mutilation is a severe abuse of human rights, in which women and girls can have their clitoris and labia cut and their vagina sewn up; understands that there are 3,000 women and girls at risk from female genital mutilation in Scotland and that this number is due to rise according to new population estimates in the 2011 census; understands that there has not been one single police report, prosecution or conviction for female genital mutilation despite renewed legislation passed by the Parliament in 2005; notes the Scottish Government's commitment to fund a scoping exercise to assess the scale of female genital mutilation across Scotland, and notes calls for this exercise to be comprehensive yet swift and to result in a further commitment for tangible action to tackle the human rights abuse of female genital mutilation in Scotland and protect those women and girls at risk of harm from what it considers this torture.

The meeting closed at 5.55 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
5 February 2014

Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 05 February 2014 and is not subject to Parliamentary procedure—

Reshaping care for older people – A report prepared for the Auditor General for Scotland and Accounts Commission for Scotland (AGS/2014/1)
laid under the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Committee Reports

The following reports were published on 5 February 2014—

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 11th report 2014 (Session 4): Subordinate Legislation (SP Paper 469)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 12th report 2014 (Session 4): Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill as amended at stage 2 (SP Paper 470)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 13th report 2014 (Session 4): Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Deep Sea Mining Bill (SP Paper 471)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee, 13th report 2014 (Session 4): Legislative Consent Memorandum on the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill (SP Paper 472)

The following report is being published on 6 February 2014—

Justice Committee, 3rd report, 2014 (Session 4): Stage 1 Report on the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 468)

The following reports are being published on 7 February 2014—

Finance Committee, 1st Report, 2014 (Session 4): Report on proposals for a Scottish Fiscal Commission (SP Paper 466)

Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee, 1st Report, 2014 (Session 4): Report on the proposed draft Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act 2003 Remedial Order 2014 (SP Paper 473)

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